

Attorney's Docket No.: 09604-012001

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : James W. Overbeck et al. Art Unit : 1743
Serial No. : 09/079,324 Examiner : Le, L.
Filed : May 14, 1998
Title : DEPOSITING FLUID SPECIMENS ON SUBSTRATES, RESULTING
ORDERED ARRAYS, TECHNIQUES FOR ANALYSIS OF DEPOSITED
ARRAYS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

REQUEST

Applicant requests confirmation that the inconsistent Petition To Convert to Provisional Application dated August 3, 1998 has not been entered.

REMARKS

Through oversight, on August 3, 1998, simultaneously with responding to the requirement to file Missing Parts with payment of fee, applicant also submitted a Petition to Convert to Provisional Application, appended hereto.

The U.S. Patent Office, (as well as applicant) continually, since that time, has treated this application as a U.S. patent application properly continuing under examination.

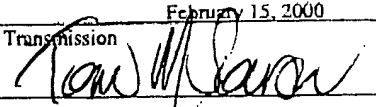
The U.S. Patent Office (with Applicant's approval) therefore has effectively denied the petition.

Applicant will respond to the present outstanding Office Action with this understanding.

For the record, at the convenience of the USPTO, applicant requests that the USPTO provide confirmation that the inconsistent petition has been dismissed.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below.

Date of Transmission February 15, 2000

Signature

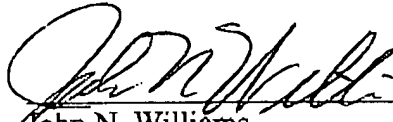
Toni M. Sousa
Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

Applicant : James W. Overbeck et al.
Serial No. : 09/079,324
Filed : May 14, 1998
Page : 2

Attorney's Docket No.: 09604-012001

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 8, 2000



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PATENT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 09604/012001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : James W. Overbeck et al. Art Unit: 2872
Serial No.: 09/079,324 Examiner:
Filed : May 14, 1998
Title : DEPOSITING FLUID SPECIMENS ON SUBSTRATES, RESULTING
ORDERED ARRAYS, TECHNIQUES FOR ANALYSIS OF DEPOSITED
ARRAYS

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

**PETITION TO CONVERT TO A PROVISIONAL
APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b)(2)(ii)**

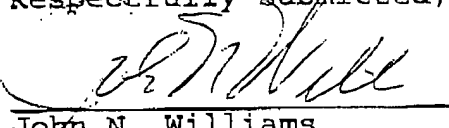
Applicants hereby petition that the above application
be converted to a provisional application under 37 C.F.R.
§ 153(b)(2)(ii).

This Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
is being filed less than twelve months after the filing date of
the corresponding § 1.53(b)(1) application, and thus the
provisional application should be accorded the original filing
date of May 14, 1998.

A check for \$50.00 in payment of the fee required under
37 C.F.R. § 1.17(q) is enclosed. If there are any additional
charges or any credits, please apply them to Deposit Account No.
06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Aug. 3, 1998


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322184.B11

Date of Deposit August 3, 1998

I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being
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